

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Remote tracing from a local data processing node of the execution of a process within an application program running on a remote data processing node in a distributed data processing network. The application program includes its own local trace facility and the nodes communicate by asynchronous messaging via mailboxes. Each node includes process-private interrupt handling means for indicating the presence of a command for the respective process in the mailboxes.

A trace command is sent from a trace process running on a local data processing node into a mailbox of a remote data processing node. In response to the trace command, a process-private interrupt is caused of a target process running on the remote data processing node. In response to the interrupt, the target process writes trace information from the trace facility to the mailbox. This trace information is transmitted across the network and is received in a mailbox on the local data processing node. In response to receiving the trace information, a process-private interrupt is caused of the trace process. In response to the process-private interrupt the trace information is read by the trace process from the mailbox.